



CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

# NEWS RELEASE

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Department of Toxic Substances Control

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## **Department Denies Appeals of NASNI Mixed Waste Permit**

**Sacramento** – The California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) today announced it has denied three appeals of its decision to issue a permit to the U.S. Navy to construct and operate a mixed waste storage facility (MWSF) at the Naval Air Station, North Island (NASNI) in Coronado, California.

The appeals were denied because DTSC concluded that issues raised by the appellants "failed to meet the legal criteria" for appealing a hazardous waste facility permit decision. In addition, DTSC concluded the three appeals "failed to identify issues that warrant a change in a permit decision" or require adding further conditions to the issued permit.

The appeals were filed by the Environmental Health Coalition, the Peace Resource Center of San Diego and Stephanie Kaupp, a resident of Coronado.

The permit, issued by DTSC on September 29, 1998, authorizes NASNI to construct and operate the facility. The MWSF will be located within NASNI's Depot Maintenance Facility Complex which provides maintenance and support for nuclear aircraft carriers. Waste stored at the facility will be generated from the nuclear aircraft carriers home-ported at the dock, the Depot Maintenance Facility or the Navy's maintenance Submarine Base at Point Loma.

Under the permit, mixed waste has been defined as 15 specific waste streams. Conditions of the permit require the facility store no more than 5,500 gallons of mixed waste (low level radioactive and chemically hazardous.) Eighty percent (80%) of the mixed waste stored at the facility will consist of rags and metal parts. The remaining 20% will consist liquids stored in plastic containers within sealed fire retardant plastic bags and drums. Drums with liquids will not be allowed to be doubled stacked. The permit also included special design and construction standards.

The NASNI, first commissioned in 1917, is located at the northern end of the peninsula that forms the San Diego Bay, adjoining the City of Coronado. The Air Station is used to maintain and operate facilities that provide services and material support to fleet helicopters, jet aircraft squadrons, and aircraft carriers.

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**The California Department of Toxic is one of six boards and Departments within the California Environmental Protection Agency.**